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# PMA SHOPTALK

FEB 21 1952

U. S. Department of Agriculture ✓✓✓ Production and Marketing Administration  
Midwest Area, Office of Information Services, 623 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill.  
Editor, Vincent P. Freymann Phone: HOLlycourt 5-7468  
Vol. I, No. 1 February 21, 1952

FOR PMA EMPLOYEES IN THE MIDWEST

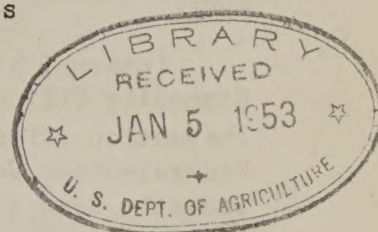
PMA SHOPTALK makes its bow as a weekly newsletter for PMA employees in the Midwest. Its objective: to help every employee be better informed concerning activities of PMA, the work of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and some of the major developments in agriculture in general.

Every PMA branch or office is urged to contribute reports on its activities and accomplishments each week.

John C. Baker, Chief, Midwest Area  
Office of Information Services

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 20 - 22	Ohio State Horticultural Society	Cleveland
February 22 - 24	Minnesota Poultry, Butter, Egg Association	Minneapolis
February 25 - 26	North Dakota state PMA meeting	Fargo
February 25 - 29	National Association Soil Conservation Districts	Cleveland
March 1 - 9	National 4-H Club Week	
March 3 - 5	National Preservers Association	Chicago
March 3 - 5	National Association of Frozen Food Packers	Chicago
March 3 - 7	National Association of Frozen Food Distributors	Chicago



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

All of USDA's Iowa state offices are now consolidated under one roof --- the Iowa Building, 505 Sixth Ave., in downtown Des Moines. Agencies are Iowa State PMA Committee, Bureau of Animal Industry, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Livestock Market News, Poultry Market News, Farmers' Home Administration, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, and Soil Conservation Service. Richard Bender, Chief of the Administrative Services Division, Chicago, supervised the consolidation.

The Iowa consolidation is the third such completed in the Midwest states. Others are Ohio and South Dakota.

The Files Depository for inactive PMA records, formerly maintained by Administrative Services at 158 West Harrison, has been moved to the Federal Records Center of the General Services Administration at 333 West Lake Street. The transfer required the packaging and moving of more than 9,000 cubic feet of old PMA records.

AUDIT

Internal audits of Kansas City, Chicago, and Minneapolis PMA Commodity Offices, State and County PMA offices, and Grading and Inspection offices are proceeding on schedule. First audit of a Federal-State Cooperative fruit and vegetable inspection office has recently been completed -- in Minnesota.

To date twelve audits based on claims under the Storage Guarantee program, have been completed. Substantial reductions of claims obtained in many, but in two cases warehousemen had not claimed enough.

Audits of elevators storing CCC grains continuing, with five more states added to our area of operation -- Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, and Kentucky. Notwithstanding news reports, all grain shortage cases, with one minor exception, were discovered and reported by PMA offices and the Audit Office.

Midwest office is experiencing increasing difficulty in obtaining qualified applicants for auditor positions -- GS-7 through GS-11.

After many years of service with the Office of Audit, and before that with the Office of Compliance and Investigation, C. P. Collins, Chicago office, is transferring to OPS, effective March 17.



## COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

Court action by government to recover value of CCC grain illegally converted by two Ohio grain companies was taken in U. S. Court for Northern District Ohio at Toledo, February 15.

SYCAMORE MILL AND SUPPLY COMPANY, Sycamore, Ohio - CCC corn.  
Suit filed in Federal District Court and injunction requested against disposal of assets. Claim: \$518,317.17.

WALTON AND MYERS ELEVATOR, Upper Sandusky, Ohio - CCC corn.  
Suit filed in Federal District Court and injunction requested against disposal of assets. Claim: \$836,269.94.

## DAIRY

Packaging of 240,750 pounds of non-fat dry milk solids bought by the Army from CCC stock for relief feeding, will be carried out the week of February 25 in the A. Sturm and Sons' plant at Manawa, Wisconsin, under the supervision of the Dairy Inspection and Grading Division, Ed Small, chief of the division, reports. It's the first purchase of CCC owned non-fat milk powder.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Charles Croghan, with the Chicago FD office for more than a decade doing food trade and other related work, is transferring to the San Francisco area FD office to work with the Food Trades in that area.

Food Trades report big consumer demand for head lettuce from the record Imperial valley crop now on the market. Walter Patterson and Charles Croghan have directed this drive in the midwest.

Travel: Jeanette L. Hampton, Home Economist, to Indianapolis, February 18 for School Lunch Adm. Reviews and coordinate programs of state agencies; Oscar Beyer, Chief, to Madison, Wis., February 20, Direct Distribution and School Lunch, and Ohio, week of February 25, Direct Distribution problems; John James, Indianapolis this week, storage and distribution.

Clair Underwood and Ina Morris, home economist, have returned from conferences at Lansing Michigan, with Robert L. Sharer, newly appointed Michigan School Lunch supervisor.

### FRUIT AND VEGETABLE

R. E. Keller, chief, Midwest Marketing Field office, Dan Young, Atlanta Marketing office, and R. L. Spangler and Earl Biddick of the Fresh Products Standards and Inspection division, attended the meeting of the National Peach Council at Benton Harbor, Michigan, February 18 and 19. A major subject was proposed revision of the U. S. standards for peaches.

### GRAIN

Donald B. Thorpe, who has been with the Kansas City office of the Grain Branch since 1945, has been promoted to head the St. Joseph, Missouri office.

### INFORMATION

Washington office has issued film strip of charts showing probable 25 percent increase in population by 1975 and increase in needs of major foods; steps agriculture can take to meet needs. One copy of strip and lecture available in Chicago Information office.

### LIVESTOCK

Nearly 100 percent of beef, veal and lamb and mutton processed from commercial slaughter in the Chicago area, is now graded by qualified federal graders, says E. J. Webster, chief of the meat grading division, Livestock Branch, Chicago. OPS regulations require federal grading. Chicago area office now has a staff of forty graders, and could use from two to four more.

### PERSONNEL

Federal Personnel Council, headed by Chairman Ramspeck of Civil Service Commission, has issued set of "myths" about Federal employment and accompanying fact which explodes the myth.

MYTH: The government is full of Communists.

FACT: All Federal employees are investigated. Those of doubtful loyalty have been discharged. About one-hundredth of one percent have been discharged.



With USDA's SPOKESMEN

Secretary Charles F. Brannan in an open letter to Robert L. Johnson, Chairman of the Citizens' Committee for Hoover Report, says reports about USDA purportedly coming from the Committee, are misleading and in some cases "outright false." USDA has carried out important recommendations of the Hoover report: - gearing together SCS and ACP; already consolidated 50 percent of the Department's offices in counties and states.

Comparing 1952 with 1940, in spite of additional activities ordered by Congress, Department's budget has been cut from \$1.6 billion to \$1.2 billion; full time employees reduced by one-fifth and part time employees reduced by one-half.

With the FARM PAPERS

Washington correspondents answer the question "What will Congress do?" with the answer "not much." There's a good chance Congress will repeal the flexible provisions of the 1949 price support legislation -- ACP program will be pared little, if at all; -- price supports will be continued -- not much action on USDA "reorganization."

WALLACE'S FARMER - Front page and much inside space to handling and disposition of high moisture corn (lots of it this year throughout the midwest).

PRAIRIE FARMER - Washington report is headlined "CCC Frauds Spread Over Nation -- with Some on Our Own Doorstep." Secretary Brannan claims the offenses are against the government, not by the government.

NEBRASKA FARMER - "Congress Can Cut Spending"; MICHIGAN FARMER - "Agriculture is Basic - When Agriculture Fails - Nations Fall"; DAKOTA FARMER - Work done by the Federal-State Agricultural Statistician and his staff "is simply invaluable" -- and all information it reports is "tops".

OHIO FARMER - "Fewer Farmers; More Eaters". In 1975, farm production will need to be 25 percent greater than at present. If that's right there's a new era of farm prosperity ahead.





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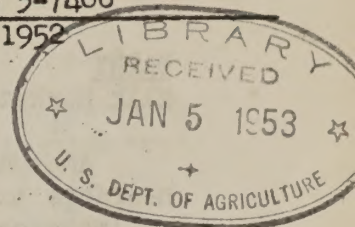
U. S. Department of Agriculture Production and Marketing Administration  
Midwest Area, Office of Information Services, 623 South Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill.

Editor, Vincent P. Freymann

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Vol. I, No. 2

February 28, 1952



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 28 - March 1	National Rural Health Conference	Denver, Colorado
March 1 - 9	National 4-H Club Week	
March 3 - 5	National Preservers Association	Chicago, Illinois
March 4 - 8	South Dakota Crop Show	Brookings
March 5 - 6	South Dakota Farm & Home Week	Brookings
March 6 - 7	Dairy Industries Supply Association	Chicago
March 7	Michigan Bean Producers Association	Saginaw, Michigan
March 10 - 11	National Farm Forum	Minneapolis
March 10 - 12	National Farmers Union Convention	Dallas, Texas
March 10 - 13	National Rural Electrification Co-op Association	Chicago, Illinois

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Royce Dodge is spending the week in Minneapolis in connection with space and housing problems of the Minneapolis Commodity Office.

## AUDIT

R. G. Flood, in charge of the audit group in the Chicago Commodity office, has resigned effective March 10. He will re-enter the public accounting field.

J. H. Bissett, Minneapolis public accountant, will join the staff of the internal audit unit in the Minneapolis Commodity Office on March 10.

The Chicago Audit Office has three positions open for auditors -- a GS-12 and GS-7 in Chicago -- and a GS-11 in Kansas City.



CCC

Director George Bradley and staff met last week with Area Work Committee, representing grain trade.

Harold Shanasy, chief, and Charles Cash, of Inventory Adjustment Section, visited country elevators in Illinois last week.

#### DAIRY

Milk Market Administrator

Amendments to Chicago milk marketing order will be considered at hearings to be held soon (tentatively March 11.) Producers have requested an increase in price.

#### Laboratory

Dairy laboratory at 1819 Pershing Road has completed extensive modernization plan started two years ago. Dr. T.I. Hedrick, lab director says lab is now equipped with latest equipment and facilities for analysis of dairy and poultry products and handles about 90 percent of government purchases of these products.

Dr. B.S. Dane, of Ministry of Agriculture in India, is spending four weeks in Chicago area, studying grading and standardization of dairy products and vegetable oils. Will be in U.S. for six months.

#### FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Oscar Beyer, Chief, in Columbus, Ohio, reviewing direct distribution activities with state officials.

Clair Underwood and Ina Morris conducted school lunch workshop for sponsors of school lunch programs at Columbus, Ohio, last week. Both in Springfield, Illinois, this week, on analysis of state school lunch program.

Walter Patterson, food trades specialist, attended meeting in Lansing called by Governor Williams this week, to promote consumption of eggs.

Branch is conducting promotion campaigns on eggs and dates.

#### LIVESTOCK

Packers and Stockyards Division

C. D. Jennings reports hearings have been completed for about 60 Chicago traders accused of using fraudulent weights. Hearings started last April. Decisions will be announced later.

Curtis Kemp has transferred from Fort Worth to Chicago staff of P&S Division.



## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE

### Marketing

R. E. Keller represented PMA at meeting of National Peach Council at Benton Harbor, Michigan this week. Major topics: probable size of 1952 peach crop (about 69 million bushels, slightly smaller than '51); how to market riper peaches, to attract more consumer dollars.

### Regulatory

With OPS ceilings now in effect for potatoes, there's much uncertainty on the part of the trade as to proper billing, charges, etc., and the situation has kept the staff of the regulatory division on the alert for possible misbranding of shipments to the Chicago market, W. A. Hilgeson, in charge of the local office, reports. The problem is more acute because no marketing orders are now in effect in the principal commercial producing areas of the midwest.

### Fresh Products

District Supervisor Neal Sanborn is on a supervisory tour of offices under his direction. He attended the National Marketing Officials Association meeting at Biloxi, Mississippi, and will meet with F and V personnel at New Orleans, Houston, Harlingen, San Antonio, and Dallas, Texas, and Kansas City. He will be back in Chicago, March 4.

## GRAIN BRANCH

Marland K. Cutler, former Grain Branch supervisor at Galveston, Texas will take over as supervisor in charge of the Branch office at St. Louis, Mo., March 17. Cutler just completed an 18 month hitch in the Naval Reserve Hospital Corps - serving at San Diego and the Great Lakes station.

Emmanuel Marouilianos, cereal chemist from Athens, Greece, in the U.S. under an ECA Point 4 program to study "American Know How" is a student-guest of the Chicago Grain Branch office this week.

## PERSONNEL

On January 31, 1952 there were 55,028 full time employees in USDA -- 9,734 in the Washington metropolitan area, and 45,294 in the field. PMA totals were: Washington, 2,469; field, 8,727 -- total, 11,196.

Don't overlook this new angle in the new annual leave law, Chief Maurice Ward points out -- From now on the annual deadline for "using it or losing it" is the last work day in the last complete pay period in the calendar year. This year that date is December 19. Plan your leave accordingly.

Myth -- Most Government employees are in Washington.

FACT: On September 30, 1951 there were 249,900 federal employees in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. That represents 10% of the total of federal employees on that date.



POULTRY

Dressed Poultry Inspection

Washington visitor, B. C. Pier, division chief. Dr. A. R. Kincaid is visiting Minnesota plants.

Market News

Bob Nelson is back on the job after an auto accident.

STATE PMA COMMITTEES

Iowa. Hervey Hazen, Chairman

Memo to county PMA committees asks chairmen to acquaint Selective Service Boards with farm production goals; concern over adequate labor force to meet 1952 production goals.

Missouri. Ed Caldwell, Chairman

County committees asked to re-inspect all corn under loan from crops of '49, '50, '51. Advised not to approve loans on poor quality corn.

Committees in flood-stricken counties informed of soil conservation payment of \$3 per acre for approved practices in restoring water-logged soil.

Committees instructed to report on 1952 wheat acreage in counties where wheat is insured.

Illinois. Harry M. Combrink, Chairman

County committees urged to notify farmers concerning procedures necessary when farmer wants to move grain under CCC loan.

County committees asked to estimate acreage of corn and soybeans by taking 10% sample of farm plans submitted by farmers.

County Agricultural Mobilization Committees asked to send representatives to state meeting of Selective Service Boards next month.

Nebraska. Frank Reed, Chairman

County committees urged to inform Selective Service Boards of agricultural goals and manpower needs.

Suggested press release: "\$1,668,913 paid to Nebraska Farmers from Federal Crop Insurance policies."

Memo to county committees stress importance of nitrogen in corn production.

Michigan. James Quick, Chairman

About 1/3 of Michigan's 184,509 farmers signed farm plans for '52 as of February 15. Letter to county committees stresses importance of conservation, forage crops, crop rotation as aid to meeting production goals.



With the FARM PAPERS

INDIANA FARMERS GUIDE - Rumpuses in Washington over shortages in CCC's grain storage program. "So far it appears that USDA-CCC has been guilty, at most, of laxity and sloppy judgement in dealing with private traders and warehousemen."

PRAIRIE FARMER - Egg laws can help an alert industry but they can't do the whole job! In the last analysis its up to the farmer, egg dealers and grocery men to get high-quality eggs to consumers.

DAKOTA FARMER - Calls the "First things-first" plan of soil conservation "a Useful SHIFT." A farmer can now start a conservation plan with one or two selected practices that he knows will fit his needs and his pocket book. Then later he can work toward a complete farm conservation plan.

MICHIGAN FARMER - Lead article--well illustrated says "CONSERVATION Revolutionizes Farming." Another "Good Pastures make Beef."

OHIO FARMER - Features Ohio Production Goals for 1952 and backs up the story with its lead editorial pointing up the needs and methods required to do the job.

WISCONSIN AGRICULTURIST - Reports a poll of farmers on "Should we control Prices and Wages." Results: Keep Controls in force--44%; keep, but make less tough--13%; End Controls at once--24%; No opinion--19%. The Washington Wire reports some farm leaders worry that "grain scandals" may weaken the position of all farm programs.

WALLACE's FARMER - Four well illustrated articles deal with use of soft corn as feed, for livestock and poultry, drying, care through the winter and keeping qualities. Another article asks "What's Corn Loan in 1954" under the flexible loan rates. The rate may be \$1.22 in 1954, an editorial states.

Editorially the paper believes that CCC has done a fair job with grain reserves but must do better. Congress should improve the basic act, and Secretary Brannan should check more closely on his system of management and inspection.

MINNESOTA FARMER - Experiments show little evidence of harm to animals fed soft corn, but it does not have the feeding value of No.2 corn.

NEBRASKA FARMER - Annual Poultry issue. Poultry industry faces lower prices, higher costs, less feed supplies, but potentially more consumers in 1952. Poultrymen probably won't make as much in 1952 as in 1951 when total poultry income set new high records!





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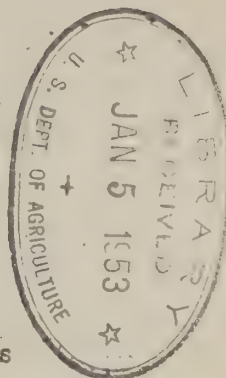
U. S. Department of Agriculture      Production and Marketing Administration  
Midwest Area, Office of Information Services, 623 South Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill.

Vol. 1, No. 3

March 6, 1952

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 1 - 9	National 4-H Club Week	
March 7	Michigan Bean Producers Association	Saginaw
March 7 - 8	Minnesota State PMA Conference	St. Paul
March 8	Michigan Livestock Exchange	Lansing
March 10 - 11	National Farm Forum	Minneapolis
March 10 - 12	National Farmers Union Convention	Dallas
March 10 - 13	National Rural Electrification Co-op Association	Chicago
March 11	Pest Control Conference	East Lansing, Michigan
March 13	Ohio Guernsey Breeders Association	Columbus
March 13 - 14	Wisconsin State PMA Conference	Green Bay
March 14 - 16	Iowa Young Peoples Assembly	Ames
March 17	USDA Consolidation Representatives all Midwest USDA agencies	Des Moines.



## COMMODITY

Assistant Director M. R. Livingston is in Washington this week for conferences on budget matters.

## DAIRY

Laboratory - Mr. Bhalchandra S. Dane of the Indian Ministry of Agriculture, spent two days with the staff observing the methods used in grading dairy and poultry products. He is inspector of quality control for butter, ghee (butter oil), and vegetable oils for India.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Area Field Supervisor Oscar Beyer went to Indianapolis, March 4, for conferences with state school lunch officials.

John Janus, assistant to John James in the Direct Distribution section, is taking over the Food Trades assignments formerly carried by Charles Croghan.

Floyd Tuchscher is conferring with South Dakota school lunch officials on administrative matters this week.

Washington visitor - Jeanette McFadden of the Technical Services Section.  
Ohio visitor - Victor Marken, State Supervisor of Commodity Distribution.

Office is conducting an area-wide campaign to promote egg consumption. Eggs are plentiful -- prices down and quality high.

## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE

Processed Products - District Supervisor Max Austin attended the meetings of the National Kraut Packers and National Pickle Packers associations at East Lansing, Michigan, February 18-20.

Washington visitors - F. L. Sutherland, Chief, Processed Products Standardization and Inspection Division, L. G. Fenn, assistant chief, and Elmer P. Bostwick, chief, standardization section, to attend the annual convention of the National Frozen Foods Association, March 3 through 6.

Regulatory - Wilson Miller and Victor Ekstrom left March 3 on a two week investigation trip of complaints and license matters under PACA. Their itinerary includes Detroit, Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Indianapolis.

Fresh Products - Washington visitor: W. C. Hasbrouck, administrative officer, Friday -- enroute to the west coast.

District Supervisor Neal Sanborn returned March 4 from a two week supervisory trip covering F and V offices in the district.

## GRAIN

Regulatory and Inspection - U. S. Marshal has seized a "plugged" car of corn shipped from Indiana to Chicago for sale. Grain Branch employees discovered that the carload had low quality corn on the bottom of the car and reported the case to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Part of the corn was found to be decomposed and unfit for human consumption and seizure followed.

Supervisor Hazen P. English left March 2 on a supervisory trip to offices under his charge at Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston. First stop -- Washington.

(continued)



## GRAIN (Continued)

Indictments in six Ohio grain "conversion" cases were returned by Federal Grand Juries at Toledo and Dayton this week. The cases involve the Easley Mills of Morrow; Kingston Farmers Exchange, Inc., Kingston; Walton & Case Elevator, Richwood; Bryan Farmers Cooperative Grain & Supply Co., Bryan; Sycamore Mill and Supply Co., Sycamore; and Walton & Myers Elevator Co., Upper Sandusky.

## INFORMATION

Michigan visitors: Robert G. Kramer, agricultural economist at Michigan State College, C.E. Johnson, farm editor, Grand Rapids Press, and a group of 15 county extension and 4-H Club agents spent March 3 observing Chicago markets and USDA's market news reporters in action. Their itinerary included the fresh fruit and vegetable market, the stockyards, and Board of Trade. At 623 South Wabash, Floyd Simpson explained the dairy and poultry market news services and Paul Ostendorf outlined the nation-wide distribution of market information via wire services and USDA's leased wires radiating from Chicago.

Chief John Baker left Sunday for a two week vacation. In his absence Paul Ostendorf will be in charge.

## PERSONNEL

MYTH-- Federal employees principally are political appointees.

FACT-- In the continental U. S. on Sept. 30, 1951, 93 percent of all positions in agencies of the executive branch of the government were in competitive service.

## SOLICITOR

John A. Harris, attorney on the staff of the Chicago office for over two years, will transfer to the Washington office on March 10.

## STATE PMA COMMITTEES

Michigan, James H. Quick, Chairman

Chairmen of County Agricultural Mobilization committees advised to personally contact local Selective Service Boards and discuss farm production and labor problems, based on Fact Sheets.

Memos to County PMA committees cover: Renewal of Farm Storage Facility Loans; Procurement of Fertilizers under purchase order plan; price supports for 1952-crop edible beans, corn and soybeans; Crop Insurance scoreboard.

(continued)

STATE PMA COMMITTEES (Continued)

North Dakota, John E. Kasper, Chairman

A memo to all county committees lists the preliminary county allocations of ACP practice funds and reports formula used in determining each county's share; another covers reinspection of farm stored commodities.

PMA News reports 40 million bushels of 1951 crop wheat placed under CCC loans by North Dakota farmers and the Farm Storage Facility loan program has enabled the state's farmers to add over 5-1/2 million bushels to their farm storage space.

Ohio, Dale C. Williams, Chairman

The Weekly Newsletter's illustrated first page headlined "American Farmers Are Still Mining Their Soil. Conservation and Soil Building are Time Consuming and Expensive -- Yet -- IT MUST BE DONE to Feed our Nation Well."

Memos to the counties cover minimum sales prices for bin site wheat, corn, oats and clover seed; transmittal of CCC remittances; re-inspection of farm stored commodities under loan.

Indiana, L. M. Vogler, Chairman

In view of current farm labor problems, state office suggests that the County Agricultural Mobilization Chairman, or his appointee, call on the local Selective Service Board armed with the Fact Sheets on 1952 Production Goals and Farm Production Facilities, and discuss them point by point with the Board.

Copies of the Secretary's recent memo covering consolidation of state and county USDA offices were mailed to the counties. Memos to these offices included: report of county office consolidation (to 28 counties); March sales prices of CCC commodities.

Illinois, Harry M. Combrink, Chairman

PMA News reports that 2 cents of our income tax dollar goes into USDA appropriations and, ACP incentive payments take only 3/10 of one cent of this. Memos to county committees cover: Materials and Facilities; sales price CCC corn at bin sites; a list of all approved soil testing laboratories in Illinois; and Final Allocation of AC Program funds for each county.

Iowa, Hervey Hazen, Chairman

Farmers should sign up (for ACP participation) now -- is caption of a suggested release by county PMA offices. Sign-up must be by April 1.

SIGN-UP TIME also headlines the Newsletter to the State's community committeemen.

(continued)



STATE PMA COMMITTEES (Continued)

Missouri, E. R. Caldwell, Chairman

PMA News to County Committees carries Secretary's recent memo pointing up importance of consolidation of state and county USDA offices; -- the value of price supports --- the farm labor problem -- and carries some excellent quotes from county newsletters about the 1952 farm program.

Memos cover March sales prices of CCC owned grains, terminal markets and county price support rates for grain sorghums, instructions on conservation practices and payment rates by counties, sales of bin stored corn, and instructions to County Agricultural Mobilization Committees to personally present Farm Production Goals and Production Facilities Fact Sheets to the local Selective Service Boards.

Nebraska, Frank Reed, Chairman

Memo to county committees gives the listed acreage goals for all crops in Nebraska for 1952, and 1951 plantings of the same crops, analyzes the goals of major crops, points out the needs, and price support assurances.

Other memos cover Designation of Practices 1952 MCP, the availability of farm storage facility loans, and the need for reinspection of corn under 1949-50 and '51 CCC loans.

WITH USDA'S SPOKESMEN

Secretary Charles F. Brannan in "A Brief Factual Statement About the So-Called 'Grain Conversion Cases' --- guilty were some commercial warehousemen who wrongfully converted or appropriated CCC grain --- to date no evidence that any USDA employee involved --- some employees discharged or disciplined for laxity or accepting gratuities, but none of firms involved in conversions were donors or benefitted through collusion by employees --- final loss to government may not exceed \$1 million, or one one-hundredth of one percent of value of commodities stored by CCC in last three years --- shortages discovered by FIA's regular investigators and court action instituted soon as possible --- major cause for 'conversions' were inadequate state warehousing laws."

WITH THE FARM PAPERS

Dakota Farmer -- "Corn Drying Pays," and "Conservation Pays" -- the latter article documented by results obtained by Dakota farmers.

Michigan Farmer -- Observations by Art Much in "Straight from the Shoulder". If we were willing to eat the same quantity, variety, and quality of food that we ate in 1935-39, we would need to spend only 19 percent instead of 26 percent of our income for food.

The Farmer (Minnesota) -- Good poultrymen make money every year -- Some farms will never pay, quoting from a report of the Agriculture Committee of NPA, because 2 million families live on unproductive land.





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MAR 14 1952

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Vol. I, No. 4

March 13, 1952

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 13 - 14	Wisconsin State PMA Conference	Green Bay
March 13	Ohio Guernsey Breeders' Assn.	Columbus
March 14 - 15	South Dakota State PMA Conference	Huron
March 14 - 16	Iowa Rural Young Peoples' Assembly	Ames
March 15	Michigan Rabbit Breeders Assn.	East Lansing
March 17	USDA Regional Conference	Des Moines
March 17 - 19	Short Course for Food Store Retailers and Key Personnel International House University of Chicago Campus	Chicago
March 18 - 21	Ohio Farm and Home Week	Columbus

## COMMODITY

Marvin Smith Assistant Administrator for Programs, and Al Bohlman, Transportation and Warehousing Division, went to Washington this week for conferences with Livestock Branch on procedures regarding 1952 Wool Loan price support program.

PMA's price support loan programs and their operation will be discussed at a three day meeting (March 17-18-19) in the Conference Room, 623 S. Wabash. Attending will be Washington representatives of CCC and Grain Branch, State PMA Offices and Chicago Commodity Office.

Representatives of Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Iowa, and Illinois state PMA offices will hold their regular monthly meeting with Chicago Commodity officers March 20. The Area Work Committee, including Commodity and PMA representatives and members of the grain trade, will meet March 19 in Director George Bradley's office.

Assistant Director George Livingston has returned from a series of budget conferences in Washington last week.

## DAIRY

Laboratory now inspecting and grading 1,800,000 pounds of non-fat dry milk solids recently purchased by Army from CCC stocks.

During 1951 a total of 125,948,732 pounds of dry milk powder was graded by USDA's Chicago dairy laboratory. Total included both government and commercial powder. Grading required 8,800 fat and 9,250 sediment tests; 8,450 acidity, solubility and bacteria determinations; 10,100 moisture and 10,800 flavor tests, Dr. T. I. Hedrick, chief chemist, reports.

### Inspection and Grading-

Ed Small will attend a conference of federal and state dairy officials March 12 in the State Capitol at Madison, Wisconsin, to discuss proposed revision of standards for grades of Swiss cheese. Meeting called by C. J. Babcock, chief of the Standards Section, Dairy Branch.

## FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Travel -- John Janus to Indianapolis and Cincinnati to call on food trade members. Chief Oscar Beyer and John James, to Wisconsin and Minnesota to discuss direct distribution problems with state officials.

School lunch programs under private sponsorship are now operating in 1,034 eligible private schools in 8 midwest states, under agreement with USDA and Chicago FD office. Daily lunches were served to an average of 156,533 children in January 1952. This compares with 1,016 schools and 151,216 children served a year ago. Totals do not include private schools in Illinois, Indiana, and Missouri which operate under agreements with state agencies.

## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE

### Marketing Office-

Supervisor R. E. Keller will attend the meeting of the South Dakota Potato Growers association at Watertown on March 15. Growers will nominate committee members for the state's potato marketing order, now inactive.

### Processed Products Division-

Max Austin conferred with Illinois state procurement officials at Springfield on March 11 about matters related to inspection of purchases for state institutions.

## GRAIN

Indicted by a Federal grand jury for illegal conversion of CCC-owned grain and other charges in connection with the conversions, officials of two Ohio warehouses were arraigned in federal court in Toledo, March 7 and pleaded "not guilty." They were: Clarence D. Davis, president and manager of the Bryan Farmers' Coop., Bryan, Ohio, and Marion A. Ward, Sycamore Mill and Supply Co., Sycamore, Ohio.



## LIVESTOCK

Packers and Stockyards Division -

Washington visitor -- C. L. Richard, weighing engineer, March 11.

## MILK MARKET ADMINISTRATOR

Hearing is now under way at Chicago's La Salle hotel on proposed amendments to the Chicago Milk Order, requested by the greater part of the 23,000 dairymen who supply milk to metropolitan Chicago. Producers request a higher price for Class I milk (sold for fluid consumption) and Class II (milk used for cream and ice cream). The dairymen have been receiving an average of \$4.39 per cwt. for Class I and \$4.06 for Class II.

Dairymen sold a total of 3.7 billion pounds of milk for \$144 million under the Chicago Order in 1951, according to Market Administrator A. W. Colebank. An average of 10 million pounds is consumed in the Chicago area daily -- 5.3 million in bottled form, 2.2 million for cream and ice cream and the balance for production of other dairy products. Where does it come from? Wisconsin - 58.4%, Illinois - 34.6%, balance from Indiana and Michigan.

## AUDIT

Washington visitor - John F. McShea, assistant chief auditor, on business matters.

Out of 514 audits programmed in fiscal 1952 (since July 1, 1951), the staff of the Chicago office has completed 342, Ray Pauley, in charge, reports.

## PERSONNEL

R. T. Mirchandani, New Delhi, India, assistant marketing officer of the Ministry of Agriculture of India, will be in Chicago, March 14 to 21 to observe the organization and operation of Market News Services - both governmental and private. He is making a nationwide survey with the objective of establishing a similar service in India.

MYTH- The seven percent of federal employees who are not in the competitive service are all political appointees.

FACT- Employees of entire agencies, including AEC, TVA, and FBI are in this group. Many others got their jobs because of unusual qualifications required and competitive exams are impractical. Others are employed only part time and a number serve as confidential assistants to top executives.

## STATE PMA COMMITTEES

Ohio, Dale C. Williams, Chairman

As of February 21, 41,887 or 17 percent of the 256,013 farms in the state were signed up for the 1952 AC program.

Illinois, Harry M. Combrink, Chairman

Of 242,007 eligible farms in Illinois, 68,698 had been signed up for the 1952 AC program on February 29. That's 28.4 percent compared with 25 percent on March 2, 1951.

Iowa, Hervey Hazen, Chairman

PMA Farm News, March 6, edition, is an "Egg Special", replete with information on egg supplies, prices and recipes. Urges all county committees to carry the message of abundant eggs and skidding farm egg prices to every local newspaper, radio station, grocer, et al. Eggs are below 25 cents a dozen in many rural Iowa areas.

1951 Report of Iowa PMA is a 21-page report of accomplishment by the State Office, Fieldmen, County and Community committeemen. Covers every phase of PMA field activities and a tremendous amount of work in the office and field.

Michigan, James H. Quick, Chairman

Fieldmen report 68,189 farm plans for the 1952 AC program signed as of February 29 -- 37 per cent.

## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The USDA Regional meeting at Des Moines, Iowa on March 17 will bring together key officials of 8 Department field agencies and their Washington staffs, from twelve midwest states. They will consider measures to achieve the 1952 record high farm production goals and consult on the program of consolidating USDA's state and county offices. Under-Secretary Clarence J. McCormick will be chairman.

## WITH THE FARM PAPERS

Ohio Farmer --- "Here's the road to efficient farm production" cites the best, approved and proven methods and the crops on which to achieve a thriving livestock industry needed to feed and cloth an increasing population and meet military requirements.

Wallace's Farmer -- Asks "How much can we produce?" and then goes on to show that if the right practices are followed and the weather is favorable, Iowa's corn production could be 55 percent greater -- oats yield could be increased 71 percent per average acre, soybeans from 22 to 30 bushels -- forage crops from 1.6 to 3.1 tons per acre. State college and USDA specialists are quoted.

(more)



WITH THE FARM PAPERS (Continued)

Prairie Farmer --reports that Wisconsin wool growers are optimistic about the future of sheep raising -- in spite of dropping prices. Membership in the Wisconsin Wool Growers Association jumped more than 1,000 in 1951 to 6,647.

Farmer's Friend (Wisconsin) - Farm Programs Must Benefit All Farmers and Also the Nation.

Missouri Ruralist - In an illustrated front page and lead story, magazine points up the need for more hospitals for rural Missouri. Five new hospitals were completed in rural sections of the state last year. Critical need for more in many areas.

Nebraska Farmer - March is a month of sunshine and crocuses, wind -- and many other things . Mostly, however, it's a month of garden fever.

Commenting on USDA's 1952 Production Goals, the editor believes it will pay individual farmers to put in all the extraicks possible with intelligent know-how, to improve crop and animal yields.





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U. S. Department of Agriculture • Production and Marketing Administration  
✓ Midwest Area, Office of Information Services, 623 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill.

Vol. I, No. 5

March 20, 1952

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 22 - April 6	Chicago International Trade Fair	Navy Pier
March 25 - 26	Michigan Ass'n Future Farmers of America	Lansing
March 25	Dairy Fieldmen's Conference Purdue University	Lafayette, Indiana
March 26	Dairy Plant Operators Conference Purdue University	Lafayette, Indiana
March 26 - 27	Dairy Mfgs. Conference U. of Wisconsin	Madison
March 31 - April 1	Midwest Research Milk Mktg. Conference	Columbia, Missouri
April 2 - 3	Midwest Milk Mktg. Conference	Columbia, Missouri

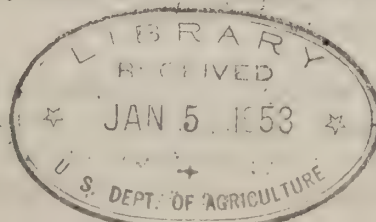
## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES - Richard Bender, Chief

Mr. Bender attended the USDA Regional Conference at Des Moines, Iowa March 17 and a meeting of USDA's midwest technical aids on March 18-19. The "technical aids" have been appointed to spearhead the U.S.D.A. State office consolidations. Iowa's USDA state offices are all now located in the Iowa Building in downtown Des Moines, in what is now considered a model State Office consolidation. Technical Aid Bender supervised the operation.

## COMPLIANCE AND INVESTIGATION - John Clagett, Chief

Gaza Piala and Frank Hausherr, accountants, have resigned their positions to return to private employment.

The Chicago office has positions open and will accept applications for the following: Accountants - GS-9 and GS-11; Investigator - GS-7, GS-9, or GS-11 on basis of qualifications; and two clerk stenos - GS-3.



## DAIRY

Laboratory - T. I. Hedrick, Chief

Three new pieces of highly specialized equipment have been installed in the laboratory at 1819 Pershing Road. An automatic titrating machine performs the entire operation of determining acidity, alkalinity, neutrality and other factors of various products to be tested. The new automatic pipetting machine fills dilution bottles needed for bacteriological tests, accurately measures required amounts, and can be adjusted to desired speed and volume.

The third machine - a spectrophotometer - determines the color of poultry products containing egg yolks, ascertains the turbidity of whey protein, and the amounts of copper and iron in dairy products through their color.

## GRAIN

Regulatory and Inspection - Hazen English, Supervisor

A record volume of appeals from grades assigned by licensed grain inspectors on grains shipped to market is reported. Appeals this year (ending June 30) will exceed 100,000, compared with an average of 80,000 to 85,000 in recent years. The disagreement by shippers with the grades assigned is probably due to the lower than average quality of the 1951 crops, Mr. English believes.

## FRUIT AND VEGETABLE

Processed Products - Max Austin, Chief

With the canned and frozen spinach season about to get under way in Arkansas, the Chicago district office is making arrangements to detail 5 inspectors to processing plants in the Little Rock, Fort Smith and Fayetteville areas.

Fresh Products - Neal Sanborn, Chief

Mr. Sanborn is attending the National Short Course on Rail Transportation of Perishable Foods at Purdue University, March 18-21.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION - Oscar F. Beyer, Supervisor

Office is engaged in an area-wide drive to promote increased consumption of eggs and oranges, now in bountiful supply. John Janus has returned from conferences with food trades members in Indiana and Ohio, and reports good industry cooperation in the current egg and orange drives.

Hal Bolin, food preservation specialist, is assisting Ohio's School Lunch and Direct Distribution directors this week in setting up their 1952 food preservation programs.

A total of 15,599 schools in 11 midwest states served daily lunches under the National School Lunch program to an estimated 2,333,606 children in January, Mr. Beyer reports. This is an increase of 4.2 percent in number of schools and about 4.5 percent in children served over January, 1951.



## LIVESTOCK

If present favorable conditions continue until September 1, Mexico will be declared free of foot-and-mouth disease for the first time in almost 5 years, Secretary Brannan announces. The dreaded infection had spread through an area of nearly 260,000 square miles before eradication measures were begun by the U. S. and Mexico in 1946.

To bring the disease under control USDA's BAI, working closely with Mexican livestock specialist, made over 60 million vaccinations, and aided in the eradication of almost a million head of cattle, sheep, swine and goats. U. S. cost of the campaign has been \$123 million. It was the greatest battle ever waged against an animal disease, Secretary Brannan stated.

Foot-and-mouth disease was discovered in a much smaller area in Saskatchewan, Canada, several weeks ago. Secretary Brannan has proclaimed an emergency -- thereby making additional funds available to strengthen the enforcement of the quarantine which was immediately established along the Canadian border.

### MILK MARKET ADMINISTRATOR - A. W. Colebank, Administrator

The hearing to consider changes in the minimum prices for Class I and Class II milk and other price adjustments for the Chicago milk marketing order, closed March 14 after four days of discussion. Decision will be announced from Washington in the near future.

The hearing on changes in the pricing provisions of the Rockford-Freeport, Ill. milk order, originally held Dec. 4-6, was re-opened Monday in Rockford. Because the milksheds of the Chicago and Rockford-Freeport orders overlap and the close relationship between the two markets, more evidence was needed relating to marketing conditions in the area which could be affected by amendments to the Chicago order.

### PERSONNEL - Maurice Ward, Chief

MYTH-Government employees are greatly overpaid	FACT-In general, the Government
-- or -- the poor government workers	pays good salaries. In
are paid so little they are hardly	the lower grades, salaries
able to feed and clothe their families.	are the equal of, or higher
	than pay for similar work
	in private industry. The
	higher you go up in the pay scale, however,
	the lower the salaries compared with those
	in private industry. Highest pay in the
	career service is \$14,800.

Official travel - Harold Gross and Walter Pospiech of the Classification section to PMA offices in Indiana and Ohio. James Breazeale, Classification section - PMA Commodity Office, Minneapolis. Maurice Ward to the South Dakota PMA State office, Huron, S.D.



## POULTRY

Dressed Poultry Inspection - W. S. Buchanan, Supervisor

Mr. Buchanan starts this week on a supervisory trip covering poultry processing plants in the Arkansas and adjacent broiler areas. He will make a final survey of two new plants at Clarksville and Dardenelle which will start operations March 24, and an initial survey of a plant now under construction at Siloam Springs, Ark.

## STATE PMA COMMITTEES

Iowa, Hervey Hazen, Chairman

State committee has issued 20 page annual report on 1951 activities.

Of Iowa's 205,000 farms, 157,728 took part in Agricultural Conservation Program. Price support program resulted in acquiring 146 million bushels of corn on hand in CCC bins January 1, 1952.

The 100 county offices in the state reported a total of 463,988 office visitors (farmers); 70,210 office visitors (non-farmers); 230,309 business telephone calls; 163,605 letters of inquiry received; 596,066 individual letters and cards mailed; 1,966,960 mimeographed mailings; 2,606 meetings conducted by county and community committeemen; 63,411 meeting attendance; 220,443 persons contacted on farms by community committeemen; 80,361 persons contacted by county committeemen.

Ohio, Dale C. Williams, Chairman

Ohio PMA FactSheet No. 5 lists the average retail price of 36 food products, what the handlers and processors got, what the farmer got, and the farmers share of the consumer's dollar. A cover memo points out that, in the case of products involving a large amount of processing, the retail price would drop very little, even if the farmer gave his crop away.

The state committee reports 58,749 farms out of the state's 268,000 farms had been signed up for the 1952 ACP program on March 7.

Illinois, Harry M. Combrink, Chairman

March 31 is the final date for the 1952 ACP signup, a suggested county news release points out, as the state office centers activities on this program.

1952 ACP signup - 81,715 farms signed out of 241,836 potentially - 33.8 percent. Results so far disappointing, and much time and effort must be extended for remainder of month to make the campaign a success, state committee states.



STATE PMA COMMITTEES (Cont'd)

Michigan, James H. Quick, Chairman

About 38 percent of Michigan farms had signed 1952 ACP applications on March 12. Tabulation is not current because reports from a number of counties have been delayed. Total farms signed - 70,150 out of approximately 184,000. County committees are reminded that a special effort should be made on the re-inspection of farm-stored collateral for CCC support loans, with warm weather approaching.

Missouri, E. R. Caldwell, Chairman

"With the U. S. population in 1975 expected to be 25 percent greater than now -- for every four persons sitting down to a meal today there will be a fifth in 1975 - this means American farmers must produce a fourth more meat - a fourth more vegetables etc. There's no more plowable land so we must make every acre produce more -- We don't want that fifth plate to be empty." -- from illustrated front page of newsletter to the counties.

"Crop Insurance Chronicle," 2nd edition, spells out the reasons why Federal "Crop Insurance is an investment protection."

Nebraska, Frank W. Reed, Chairman

"Let's Lift Our Heads" says PMA Farm News. For years some people have taken a defensive attitude regarding PMA programs -- such as ACP payments. They are a subsidy -- it's hard to find any segment of American industry that is not subsidized by the Federal government. The ACP subsidy is made to the greatest natural resource in the world - the American farm. Let's lift our head and feel proud of our part in ACP.

North Dakota, J. E. Kasper, Chairman

The state's 51 crop insurance county committees are urged to push crop insurance contract sales. All that's required is "enthusiasm and hard work." For proof -- Walsh county salesman secured 38 wheat and 40 flax applications in week ended March 8. All county committees are advised that applications for priority in obtaining trawler tractors must carry complete information requested on the forms to avoid delay of action by NPA.

Indiana, L. M. Vogler, Chairman

State Committee information letter to counties points up the farmer's share of the consumer dollar - listing 36 food products, other consumer products and "Market Basket" with marketing charges and the farmer's share of the retail cost of each item.

IN SENATE

January 11, 1911

REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE LAND OFFICE

FOR THE YEAR 1910

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1911

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